

St Ita's Newsletter

FAITH - WISDOM - KNOWLEDGE

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John 2:13-25

¹³When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple courts he found men selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

IMPORTANT DATES this week:

TONIGHT Wednesday 28th—Parent /Teacher interviews—school hall

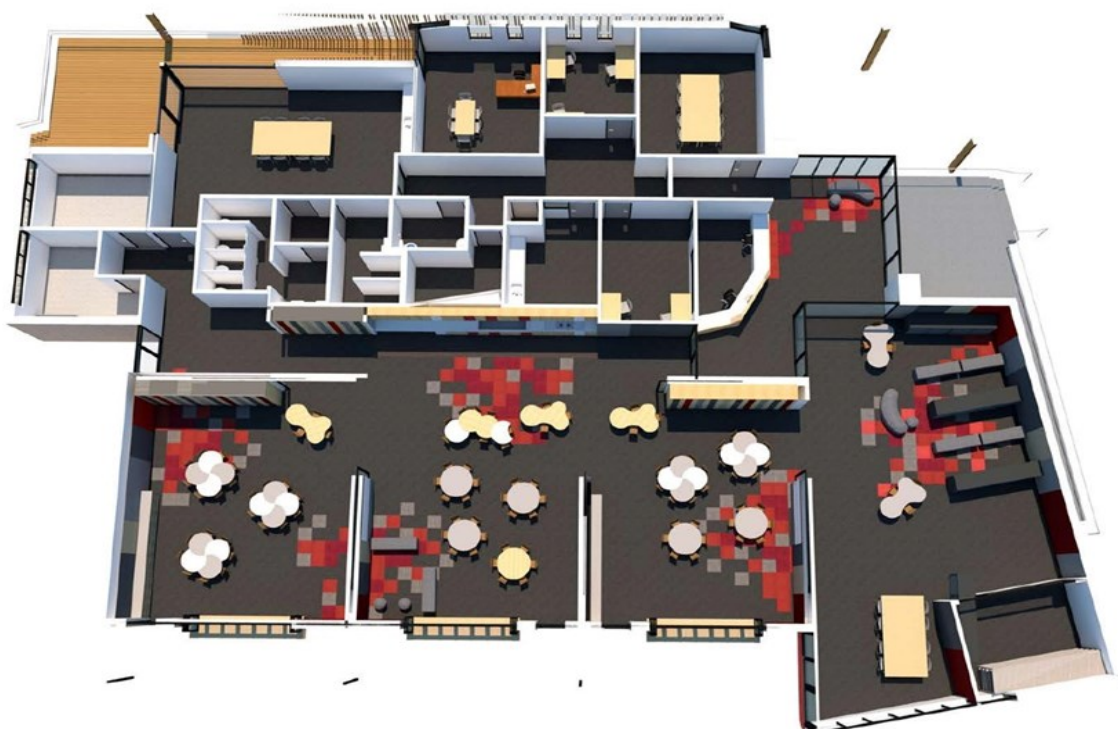
TONIGHT Wednesday 28th— Reconciliation Parent/Child workshop—7pm St Ita's Hall

Monday 5th—Grade 5 & 6 swimming lessons daily

Principal's message:

OUR NEW SCHOOL BUILD

We are very excited to announce that we are fast approaching the final stages of the planning phase for our new school build, which will include a new Administration block, three new open plan classrooms, staff / parent meeting rooms and a Technology Centre / Library. The project looks like going out to tender around May / June of this year and Minx Architecture have done a wonderful job in the planning stage and the end result is most impressive. It will give our school a highlighted new front, which we have not had before, and most importantly new classrooms and meeting spaces to cater for our growing population. The new building will be located on the block currently occupied by the weatherboard house as you drive into the school on your right.



ST ITA'S PS - Administration & Foundation Learning Centre
FLOOR PLAN CUT AWAY
ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

MINX ARCHITECTURE

WELCOME FAMILY PICNIC ON THE OVAL

Our St Ita's welcome "Picnic on the Oval" will be held on
Wednesday 7th March starting at 5.30pm until 6.30pm.

Parents are invited to bring a picnic dinner or take away, a picnic rug or chairs to set up on the lower oval next to the playground.

It's a great opportunity to enjoy time meeting families both old and new whilst allowing the kids to have a play together.

We hope you can join us for this social event and all kids attending will receive an icy pole.

Could families please respond through class DOJO the numbers attending, adults and children, so we can get a rough estimate of icy poles required ?



Principal's message:

HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH SCREEN TIME?

TV morning host Lisa Wilkinson recently made some rather controversial comments about parents who let their children have 'vast amounts of screen time' under the age of five.

Wilkinson called these parents 'crazy' and said: 'Come back to me when they're 14 and they're completely and utterly addicted to their screens, they have no social skills, that's when you realise that what you did early has come back to bite you'.



Many parents were understandably offended by Wilkinson's comments. So what is the right amount of screen time for children, if any? The debate is diverse.

The key to this dilemma, like everything, is **balance**, **consistency** and **moderation**. It is impractical and incredibly difficult to completely limit the use of screen time in children.

But you can put parameters around their usage to mitigate the risks, and maximise the benefits.

A few tips:

- ⇒ **Set rules for 'no screen time situations'** – such as at mealtime, in bed, before school or in the car. These times should be utilised for speaking with your children, discussing their day, preparing for their day and resting — not swiping, watching and tapping.
- ⇒ **Try to set daily limits** — it's okay to go over these limits every now and then when necessary, but treat this extra time as a privilege and not a given.
- ⇒ **Combine learning with screen time.** Limit the use of simple games or videos and replace them with apps or programs with some educational basis.
- ⇒ **Make sure that screen time does not take precedence over or replace other important activities**, such as exercise, outdoor activities, or reading.
- ⇒ **Create 'no screen time zones'** — particularly bedrooms for young children. If the digital screen is going to consume their attention, at least allow them to do it in the living room or in a family setting, as opposed to in isolation in their room.
- ⇒ **Participate in screen time together!** Research shows that using apps or playing digital games together can be beneficial, as it encourages dialogue and conversation — a vital element in the development of verbal skills.

What is important is that screen time does not replace or supersede other important areas of emotional, physical and developmental learning.

If you're worried that your child spends too much time on screens, try incorporating some of the above tips into their routine, and stay tuned for a future post on technology addiction and ways to overcome it.

PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent-Teacher interviews are to be held again tonight Wednesday 28th February in the school hall from 3.40pm. **Please contact your child's teacher this week, to arrange a suitable meeting time if you were unable to make these interviews.** Parent teacher interviews are an essential element in creating positive learning partnerships through the sharing of knowledge which helps all of our students to grow academically, spiritually socially, emotionally and physically.

Principal's message:

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Since the end of last year, St Ita's has been exploring the possibility of running a before and after school care program and we are at a point of approaching the CEO Sale to explore our capacity to run the program as they are now our employer.

It is important for parents to understand that running such a program requires a great deal of research and due diligence into the legal requirements, the venue safety, the logistics and the duty of care that needs to be provided to every child who uses the service. In the coming weeks we will raise the issue at our School Board Meeting and we will survey our school community to see what percentage of parents would be prepared to use the service if offered. From this point we will then present our needs to the CEO Sale.

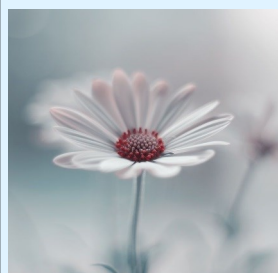
PLAY GROUP UPDATE

After numerous meetings and explorations with our leadership team regarding the logistics of running our weekly playgroup session, we are sadly at a point where the Playgroup option will not be available to parents this year, as our school population is at capacity and all our classrooms, learning spaces and our sports hall have been fully utilised in 2018 timetabling. We are sorry for the inconvenience that this may cause some parents for this year. Once the new build listed above is finished, it will open up classroom spaces in the future so that the program can resume in 2019.

SCHOOL BOARD AGM

Our St Ita's School Advisory Board AGM will be held on Wednesday 7th March starting at 7.00pm in the St Ita's staffroom. It would be wonderful to have some new faces nominated to be a part of this important advisory committee that does such a great job supporting our wonderful school.

A HEART FELT THANK YOU



The Aitken family, Melissa, Ben, Kobi and Kai would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone within the St Ita's community for the generous support of prayers, words of comfort, meals and beautiful flowers following their tragic loss. The family have been humbled and deeply touched by what the St Ita's community has given them during this emotionally tough time. Could I please ask that everyone in our school community to keep them in our prayers and thoughts as they work through this terrible loss?

PARENT SURVEY

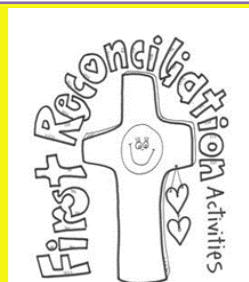
A survey was sent home (via paper copy, newsletter & skoolbag app) for all parents to complete and advise feedback to the school on how we can assist parents to be more connected with school.

We have only received a handful of surveys back. We would appreciate all families to complete the survey and return to school by this Friday 9th March. A link is also available via [surveymonkey.com](https://www.surveymonkey.com) for you to complete on-line and is attached to this newsletter.

CORRECT SCHOOL UNIFORM

Thanks to all our students for making sure they present to school in their correct uniform. I touched base with our senior students last week and explained that I am happy for them to have a runner type school shoe so long as they are all black with no logos. All students in our school have been reminded that runners and white sports socks are for sports days only. Grey socks are to be worn by the boys on non-sport days. We thank you for supporting us with ensuring our children are in correct school uniform.

IMPORTANT NOTICES



SACRAMENT of RECONCILIATION

DIARY REMINDERS

TONIGHT: PARENT—CHILD WORKSHOP

The Parent/Child workshop will be held tonight or tomorrow:

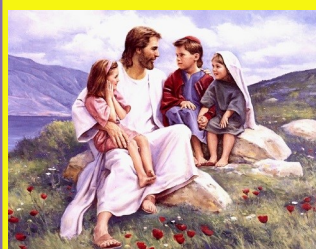
Wednesday 28th February (tonight) in St Ita's School hall at 7pm Or

Thursday 1st March in St Joseph's Church Marian room, Warragul at either 4pm or 7pm.

A parent and child must attend one of these workshops. Workshops will start promptly.

Please bring along your completed worksheets and any outstanding forms, levy, photo or baptism certificates. We look forward to seeing you.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION



The Sacrament of Reconciliation, will be celebrated on:

Wednesday 14th March at 7:00pm in **St Ita's Church, Drouin.** OR

Thursday 15th March at 7:00pm in **St Joseph's Church, Warragul.**

Please keep these children & families in your prayers as they continue their faith journey. All Enquiries: Thérèse p:5623 1642 or email

sacraments@warragulparish.org.au, available at the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.



OUTDOOR PAINT REQUIRED— OLD or NEW

As part of Grade 2's Integrated Studies this year we will be working in our school veggie garden.

- We would greatly appreciate if any parents have some **outdoor paint** they no longer need so we can brighten up the veggie patch area. **It needs to be paint for wood or tin.**

Please send them along to the Grade 2 classrooms or leave at the office this week.



& PLASTIC LIDS REQUIRED

- We will also be collecting any coloured **plastic** lids and bottle tops of all sizes & colours (from milk & juice containers or laundry detergents & Nappysan etc). As long as they are plastic please keep for us.



We are hoping to collect all **different colours & sizes** to create some fence art around the school veggie patch. Please wash them and send them along to the Grade Two rooms near the oval gate, or hand them into your class teacher who can pass them onto us.

Thank you for your help, Leonie Treller, Mandy Buttner & Liz Schellekens.

FOUNDATION DAYS OFF

A reminder to all Foundation parents that next week, Wednesday 7th March is the last Wednesday our Foundation students will stay at home. The Foundation student's will commence Wednesday classes on **Wednesday 14th March** after the Labour Day Public Holiday.

IMPORTANT NOTICES



P&F MORNING TEA

St Ita's Parents and Friends are requiring assistance from our school families to provide a plate for morning tea after Mass in St Ita's Church on Sunday 11th March at approximately 11.30am for all Parishoners. If you are able to assist with catering: biscuits, slice, cake etc, please advise Janet Amey via email or text. All morning tea items can be left on the table in the foyer of the Church from 10am on Sunday 11th March. Email: J.amey@outlook.com. Text: 0417 593 924 if you can assist. Thank you for your support.

PARENT INDUCTION & WORKING WITH CHILDRENS CHECK

As teachers we really encourage and value any parents to assist in the classrooms, on excursions or for various sporting activities. To be able to assist, we do require all parents & volunteers to participate in a short parent induction session at school and a 'working with childrens' check is also required. The parent induction session only takes 10 minutes and we will be running 2 sessions next week on:

Thursday 8th March @ 3.30 pm or Friday 9th March @ 08.30am

These sessions are conducted by Leonie Treller in the Grade 2 classroom portable near the Drouin Rec Reserve gate. If these session times do not suit, please chat or email with Leonie to arrange an alternative time. Email: LTreller@stidrouin.catholic.edu.au.

Once you have these 2 pre-requisites, please make contact with your child's classroom teacher for ways in which you can assist.

URGENT: FAMILY MEALS REQUIRED

We are seeking the urgent assistance of generous cooks within our school community to help provide some hearty family cooked meals for our food bank freezer. These meals are kept in our school freezer and are distributed to all families within our school community that may be experiencing some temporary family stress to help provide a little comfort and convenience when it may be needed.

Plastic and foil containers are available from the school office if required to fill with your cooked meal. Please label with a list of ingredients and the date that it was cooked. (eg casseroles, pasta dishes, sausage rolls, soup, rice, lasagne, cake etc). If at any time you are in need or know of someone in need, please contact the school office and we will do our best to help out. All information is handled sensitively and confidentially.

CAR PARKS

An important reminder to all parents entering the school by car. The top car park is a 'staff only' car park and we ask parents not to park in areas that are not marked as car parks as it blocks our car line and increases the wait for before and after school pick up. Parents who need to visit Admin or see class teachers are asked to use the Church Car Park or the Drouin Rec Car park. We ask all parents to adhere to the 8km speed zone within the school for the safety of all our children.

COLES—SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS Vouchers

Please collect and bring any Coles Sports for Schools vouchers to school and drop in the box at the school office or in the **St Ita's box** at Coles Drouin Supermarket. The more we collect the more sports equipment we can claim. Thank you for your support.

LIBRARY NEWS



by Mrs Catherine McKenna

If you want kids to
WANT to READ . . .

Then read amazing
books aloud EVERY
single day.

www.simplyinspiredteaching.com

Thank you to the families who purchased from Book Club Issue #1.

We generated \$152 in Scholastic Rewards!
I used this money to order new books
for our library.

Thanks also for supporting the library
program by ensuring your children
have a library bag.



**PARENTS! ARE YOU
REGISTERED FOR LOOP?**
scholastic.com.au/loop

Watch your inbox
for our awesome

Bonus Book Offers!



**Marist-Sion College
Year 7 2019
Information
Event**
**March 7, 2018
4.15pm - 7.00pm**

For enrolment enquiries please call our
Enrolment Officer on 5623 5944

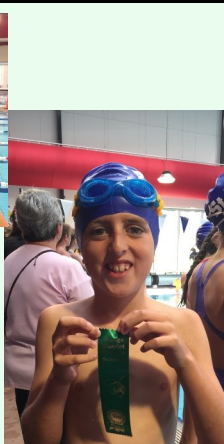
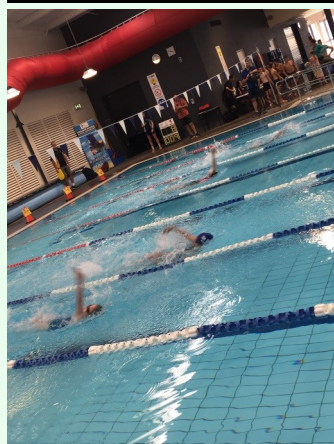

Marist-Sion College
www.mscw.vic.edu.au

SPORTS NEWS *by Mr Carroll*

WEST GIPPSLAND DIVISION SWIMMING ENTRIES

On Tuesday 20th February, St. Ita's had 27 students participate in the District Swimming Carnival at Waragul Indoor Pool. These students qualified through their solid performances at the House Swimming Carnival the previous week. There was great school spirit shown by all on the day and many fine results were witnessed by Mr Osler, Mr Carroll and some of the parents who attended this carnival. A special mention to Poppy Barry and Chloe Joiner who won their individual and relay events on the day. 17 students have qualified through to this Division Carnival which will be held next Wednesday 7th March. A wonderful achievement! We wish all them the very best. **Go St. Ita's!!**

Name	Event(s)
Ashleigh Cunico	12/13 Years Freestyle, Breaststroke, 4 x 50m Freestyle & Open Medley
Poppy Barry	11 Years Freestyle, Breaststroke, 4 x 50m Freestyle & Open Medley
Mya McFarlane	11 Years Freestyle & 4 x 50m Freestyle
Chloe Joiner	9/10 Years Freestyle, Butterfly, 4 x 50m Freestyle & Open Medley
Harper Saddington	9/10 Years Freestyle & 4 x 50m Freestyle
Elloise Campbell	12/13 years Backstroke & Open Medley
Harry Gargan	9/10 Years Backstroke & 4 x 50m Freestyle
Nate Joiner	9/10 Years Breaststroke & 4 x 50m Freestyle
Mia Harrington	9/10 Years Breaststroke, Butterfly & 4 x 50m Freestyle
Zoe Harrington	9/10 Years Breaststroke & 4 x 50m Freestyle
Heidi Spratt	12/13 Years Butterfly & 4 x 50m Freestyle
Georgia Cumming	12/13 Years Butterfly & 4 x 50m Freestyle
Emma Shaw	12/13 Years 4 x 50m Freestyle
Charlize Traumanis	11 Years 4 x 50m Freestyle
Jade Melsen	11 Years 4 x 50m Freestyle
Kaiden Walmsley	9/10 Years 4 x 50m Freestyle
Dane Hammond	9/10 Years 4 x 50m Freestyle



SPORTS NEWS *by Mr Carroll*

GR 5/6 SWIMMING LESSONS COMMENCE NEXT WEEK

Next week from **Monday 5th March to Friday 9th March** all our **Grade 5 & 6 students** will have a 30 minute swimming lesson daily at the Drouin Outdoor pool. Students are still required to wear their school uniform to school each day. Please bring bathers, a towel, hat, water bottle and sunscreen to school in a clearly named plastic bag each day (regardless of the weather). We also advise students to bring goggles & a rashie if they have them—these are optional and not compulsory. Students will change back into their school uniform after their lesson. These lessons form an important part of the new Victorian PE curriculum and will be run by fully qualified swimming instructors from the Warragul Leisure Centre. Non swimmers are also catered for. The weather will be assessed daily per session, so please bring your bathers regardless. The cost of these lessons have been included in the annual school fees.

Please return your permission notes to your classroom teacher this week.



ACTIVE APRIL

Premier's Active April encourages all Victorians to do 30 minutes of physical activity a day during April. It's free, it's fun and it's part of the Victorian Government's commitment to get more people active and healthy. Now featuring a mobile app for iOS and Android, you can log daily activity and track your progress on the go throughout the month. Plus, you can create and join teams, compare the progress of team members and win awesome prizes! You can also explore the all-new My Local to discover local offers, events and facilities available throughout Victoria. Just by registering every participant gets discounts and passes like some of these* 10 free passes to a participating YMCA or local government recreation facility. 15% off at Sportsmart in store and online, one hour free tennis court hire at Melbourne Park or Albert Reserve, a 2 for 1 ticket offer to SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium, a 2 for 1 ticket offer to Legoland Discovery Centre Melbourne, 20% discount for Netball Victoria school holiday clinics.

Register today at : activeapril.vic.gov.au. *Terms and conditions for all prizes and offers apply.

MARCH SCHOOL SPORTS CALENDAR

- **Monday 5th—Friday 9th March**
Grade 5/6 Swimming Lessons
- **Wednesday 7th March**
West Gippsland Swimming, Warragul
- **Thursday 15th March**
Regional swimming, Sale
- **Friday 23rd March**
Senior Athletics Sports Day

10-12 YEARS & TALENTED IN THE FOLLOWING SPORTS ?

School Sport Victoria Under 12s State Team Trial Registrations are open for the following sports: **Australian Football, Netball, Basketball, Football (Soccer), Softball, Tennis, and Volleyball.** These trial registrations close **Thursday, 1 March 2018.**

You can find all the details via [School Sport Victoria's website](http://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/team-vic). <http://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/team-vic>. If you are looking for a document that details the process please download the "[Team Vic Online Registrations Process](#)". This will give you all the information you need to know before registering."



DROUIN 1ST SCOUTS Fundraiser



Car Wash & BBQ

Saturday March 17, 9am – 12pm

**Where: Drouin Scout Hall,
2 Victoria St, Drouin**

**\$10 per car (includes wash, sausage & tea/coffee)
Sausages & tea/coffee also available separately**



Junior Competition 2018

The Drouin Junior Badminton Club is seeking new players to join
(Ages 6 to 17).

Fees: \$100 for the season
(incl. training, tournaments, membership & insurance)

Bring: A racquet if you have one, drink bottle;
Clean rubber soled shoes to play in
(please don't play in the shoes you wear in, it helps to protect our courts)

Training: Monday's 5:00 to 6:30pm from 12th March 2018
Drouin Badminton Club Hall: Sinclair Street Drouin
(opposite the Drouin Outdoor Swimming Pool).

Games: Friday's 7pm (Season starts after Easter)
Games played at Drouin, Ellinbank, Labertouche and Warragul
Registration open now, free come and try out

ALL LEVELS & ABILITIES WELCOME



For more info contact: Sandra Morgan 0421584201 (coach)
Or Darlene Fankhauser 0409 678 129



ST MARY'S NEWBOROUGH 60TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEN

**Supper Dance- Friday 16th March
Mass and open school- Sunday 18th
March 2018**

WHERE

**Dance- Yallourn Golf Club
Mass—St Mary's 9.00am
Newborough**

**Tickets: \$25.00 for Supper dance please contact
principal @stmnewbor.catholic.edu.au**



KIDSHOTZ IS COMING!



**Any
Family
Can
Book**



Drouin Playgroup Saturday 17th March 2018

**30 Minute Box and Black & White Sitting plus a
20x25cm Group Photo
JUST \$30.00**

Kidshotz highly qualified professional photographers are visiting.
Kidshotz are booked out most places they visit. Book NOW



accredited

Book Now! 1300 309 776 | www.kidshotz.com

ST ITA'S SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 1—2018

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 28th Parent-Teacher interviews—school hall from 3.40pm

Wednesday 28th Reconciliation Parent/Child Workshop—7pm Hall

MARCH

Thursday 1st Grade 3-4 swimming lessons

Friday 2nd School hall assembly 2.45pm. Grade 3-4 swimming lessons.

Monday 5th **Grade 5-6 swimming lessons**

Tuesday 6th Grade 5-6 swimming lessons

Wednesday 7th Foundation students day off. Grade 5-6 swimming lessons

Wednesday 7th West Gippsland District swimming— Warragul

Wednesday 7th School Board AGM—7pm. Marist Year 7 Information event.

Thursday 8th Grade 5-6 swimming lessons

Friday 9th Grade 5-6 swimming lessons

Sunday 11th P&F Morning tea @ Mass—St Ita's 10.30am

Monday 12th Labour Day Public Holiday, no school.

Tuesday 13th P&F meeting—staff room 7pm

Wednesday 14th Foundation students commence Wednesday classes

Wednesday 14th First Reconciliation—7pm St Ita's Church

Thursday 15th **Whole school Mass.** Regional swimming @ Sale.

Friday 16th School hall assembly 2.45pm

Friday 23rd Senior Athletics Sports Day

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Warragul : Saturday night 7:00 p.m. & Sunday morning 9:00 a.m.

Drouin : Sunday Morning 10:30 a.m. Neerim South : Saturday evening 5:30 p.m.

Parish Contact Details: St Joseph's—Warragul Phone 5623 1642 Fax 5622 3659

Email: secretary@warragulparish.org.au